

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 21, 2005

The Honorable John Warner
Chairman
Senate Armed Services Committee
228 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Carl Levin
Ranking Member
Senate Armed Services Committee
228 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Warner and Ranking Member Levin,

We are writing to express our strong support for Section 514 included in the House-passed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006.

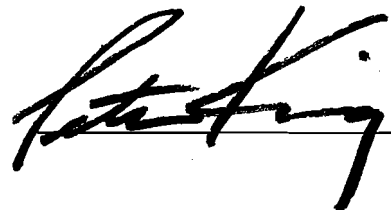
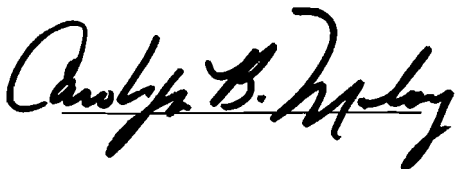
These provisions would provide retirement credit to the members of the National Guard serving on state duty who responded to the 9/11 attacks in New York and at the Pentagon. In the aftermath of 9/11, the National Guard responded to the call of duty heroically. While others were moving toward safety, the Guard moved into unknown dangers around Ground Zero. They did not know if another attack was coming, but they did not hesitate to respond. All they did was their selfless duty.

They secured lower Manhattan, they guarded against a possible second attack, and they stood up for our nation, knowing their lives may be in danger. For almost a year after 9/11, these National Guard heroes streamlined the movement of rescue personnel during the critical first phases of the response and they endured the toxic air conditions of Ground Zero with thousands of responders. Many of these National Guard members have served or are serving in Iraq. We have a chance to express the nation's gratitude to these soldiers by ensuring that they get fair federal retirement credit for their 9/11 service to the country.

We respectfully urge you to ensure that the final conference report to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 includes Section 514 to provide federal retirement credit to these heroes. The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, were an unprecedented event in American history. The provisions included in this bill will show our gratitude to the brave men and women who responded on that day by giving them the retirement benefits to which they are entitled.

Thank you for your commitment to the men and women serving this country all over the world.

Sincerely,



Carolyn McCarthy

John E. Kennedy

W. J. P. P.

Seventeenth

Joe E. L. L.

John E. L.

Louis M. Slaughter

George L. Allen

Thomas H. P.

Spencer Israel

Trif Z.

~~Gregory W. P.~~

Erin L. Enger

William C. McCarthy

James M. P.

William C. P.

Charles B. P.

Edwards

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 21, 2005

The Honorable Duncan Hunter
Chairman
House Armed Services Committee
2120 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ike Skelton
Ranking Member
House Armed Services Committee
2340 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Hunter and Ranking Member Skelton,

We are writing to express our strong support for Section 514 included in the House-passed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006.

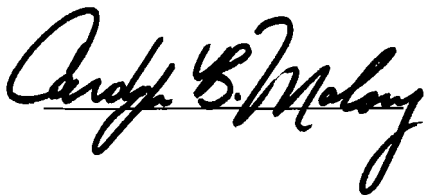
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Sincerely,



Carolyn McCarthy Thomas W. Ruff

John E. Murray

Steve Isaac

W. H. Ruff

Tim Z.

Gregory W. H. Ruff

Steven Kelly

Erin L. Enge

Joe E. Senant

William R. McCarthy

Nate L. Ruff

Arnold Madde

Robert B. Ruff

W. H. Ruff

Louise M. Stangor

Cheryl Boehm

Boyd L. Ruff

Ect. Ruff